



# *Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors*

## *Supervisor Khalif Rainey, District 2*

For Immediate Release October 15, 2014

Contact: Bill Zaferos, Public Information Manager

414/278-4230 or William.Zaferos@milwaukeecountywi.gov

### **SUPERVISOR KHALIF RAINEY CRITICAL OF GOV. SCOTT WALKER ADMINISTRATION** **RULING ON MINIMUM WAGE**

#### **Says Ruling Shows Walker Opposes a Hike While Polls Show Strong Support**

Milwaukee County Supervisor Khalif Rainey today criticized the Walker administration for a recent ruling in which a labor group's complaint was denied that would have forced an increase in the state's current minimum wage of \$7.25.

"Recent polling by UW-Milwaukee showed that 76 percent of registered Wisconsin voters support an increase in the minimum wage," Rainey said. "Clearly this is something the people of Wisconsin support, yet the Walker administration rejected an opportunity to raise the minimum wage."

According to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, earlier this month an administrator of the state Dept. of Workforce Development denied a claim by Wisconsin Jobs Now that asked for an increase in the state minimum wage.

Rainey said approval of a referendum question on the November ballot on whether to raise the minimum wage would help put pressure on all elected officials to support an increase.

"Few people doubt that we should raise the minimum wage," Rainey said. "This shameful ruling by the Walker administration is evidence that we need to find a way to convince our elected officials to increase the minimum wage. We know raising the minimum wage the fair thing to do, and people need to tell that to our elected officials."

"A referendum is a useful tool to send a message to elected officials, and I urge everyone to turn out for the November elections."

###